

Fourth Annual Meeting of Ministers on the Development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network

"Common problems – Shared solutions"
December 2008 – Bečići

DRAFT RESOLUTION

The signatories,

having regard to:

- the EC strategy paper *Transport and Energy infrastructure in South East Europe* (European Commission, 2001), the *Transport Infrastructure Regional Study* (TIRS, 2002) and the *Regional Balkans Infrastructure Study* (REBIS, 2003);
- the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network, signed in Luxembourg on June 11th, 2004;
- the Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of the South East Europe Core Regional Transport Network for a South East European Railway Transport Area, signed in Tirana on December 4th, 2007;
- the Resolutions of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Annual Meeting of Ministers signed in Skopje November 10th, 2005; in Brussels on December 1st, 2006 and in Tirana on December 4th, 2007;
- the establishment of the South East Europe Transport Observatory (SEETO);
- the Informal Ministerial Conference "The European Union and South East Europe: a common vision for connecting people", held in Belgrade on May 7th, 2008;
- the Steering Committee meetings of the South East Europe Core Network in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008;
- the Railway Working Group meetings held in 2006, 2007 and 2008;
- the SEETO Agreement signed by all signatories to the MoU;

reconfirm the commitment to develop a well functioning transport network that is a prerequisite to economic and sustainable development and integration of the region leading to a transport Community;

reconfirm continuing support to effective regional coordination to address jointly the need for adequate and sustainable regional transport infrastructure, as well as operational and regulatory issues of regional importance;

acknowledge progress that has been made in the implementation the Resolution of the third Annual Meeting of Ministers;

1. Accept the recommendation of the Steering Committee with respect to the Multi Annual Plan for the five year period 2009 to 2013 and in so doing adopt the aforesaid Plan;
2. Intend to take into consideration the contents of the Plan when formulating National Agenda, to ensure its implementation and advise on the progress made at subsequent Annual Meetings;
3. Stress the importance of the regional cooperation done through SEETO, which became continual sustainable process of improvement of Core Regional Transport Network;
4. Call upon Participants to ensure that the quality of the infrastructure continues to improve through inclusion of appropriate and economically feasible projects in Multi Annual Plans;
5. Welcome the launch of the negotiations for establishing Transport Community in the Western Balkans initiative which will integrate the South East Europe region fully into the European Transport family;
6. Recognise that all Participants are making progress to reform the transport sector introducing new legislation and regulations in line with the *acquis communautaire*; these reforms should be introduced in an harmonise way in order to the effective management and development of the Core Regional Network;
7. Acknowledge the progress made in data collection, analysis and dissemination of information on individual projects and project proposals. But note that data collection is a continuous process which needs more resources and efforts to meet the necessity of updating on regular and harmonized basis the set of data.
8. Require regular publication of performance indicators covering the condition and operation of the Core Network by SEETO;
9. Welcome the start of the project "Support for Implementing Measures for the South East Core Regional Transport Network Multi Annual Plan 2008 – 2012" and support its activities;
10. Having regard to meetings held in the framework of the Railway Working Group, agree to sign the Time table for the implementation of the Addendum of the Memorandum of Understanding on the Development of the Core Regional Transport Network regarding the South East Europe Railway Transport Area;
11. Acknowledge the serious problems concerning road safety and require improvements in management procedures and systems and endorse the development and introduction of road safety auditing;
12. Recognising the role of efficient transport logistics in a modern economy requires that Inter-modal Transport receive an increasing attention in the development of the multi-modal Core Regional Transport Network, including the specific development of the inland waterways;

13. Recognising that inter-modal transport development requires a trans-national approach to create optimum conditions for users and investors support the preparation of a regional inter-modal development strategy and plan;
14. Support the development of the European Common Aviation Agreement as a key element for improving the aviation sector market in the region;
15. Recognising the importance of inland waterway transport in the regional inter-modal system and therefore require that inland waterway transport receives more attention in the future, on issues of security, quality of service and environment protection.
16. Acknowledging the significant development to border crossing procedures that has resulted from various programmes, remain concerned that delays persist at international borders especially for freight transport leading to slower economic development;
17. Support joint working arrangements with ongoing initiatives to facilitate trade and transportation;
18. Acknowledge the limitations of public sector funding for transport infrastructure and support the development of initiatives to increase the participation of the private sector in the major infrastructure transport projects in all modes of transport.

Done in Bečići on December 4th, 2008.



Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Transport

Mr. Zoltan KAZATSAY



Minister of Public Works, Transport and Telecommunication

Mr. Sokol OLLDASHI



Minister of Communications and Transport

Mr. Božo LJUBIĆ



Minister of the Sea, Tourism, Transport and Development

Mr. Božidar KALMETA



Minister of Transport and Communications

Mr. Mile JANAKIESKI



Minister of Transport, Maritime Affairs and Telecommunications

Mr. Andrija LOMPAR



Minister of Infrastructure

Mr. Milutin MRKONJIĆ



Kosovo (under UNSCR 1244/99)¹

Mr. Johan Van LAMOEN

¹ Kosovo is under international administration in line with UNSCR 1244 of June 10th, 1999.